

**WASHINGTON-** Congressman Bachus is pleased to announce that a \$25,000,000 appropriation to continue construction on Corridor X and the Birmingham Northern Beltline was included in the Omnibus Appropriations Bill which passed the House of Representatives this evening.

“The completion of Corridor X and the creation of the Northern Beltline will keep Alabama at the forefront of industrial and commercial expansion in our region. This funding will be instrumental in creating thousands of new jobs throughout the entire Birmingham Metro Area,” said Congressman Bachus.

The construction of the Birmingham Northern Beltline has been a priority for Congressman Bachus since he was first elected to Congress in 1992. The completion of the Northern Beltline has become increasingly needed in recent years due to the gridlock associated with Malfunction Junction and the need to divert heavy truck traffic around the downtown commercial district. The Birmingham Metro Area’s rapid population growth and the repeated shutdown of I-59 and I-65 due to catastrophic accidents have highlighted the need for a more complete by-pass.

“That’s why we’ve got to continue working on projects like Corridor X and the Northern Beltline to move Birmingham and North Alabama to the next level,” said Bachus.

The \$25 million in funding for Corridor X and the Northern Beltline will continue progress in completing the Appalachian Development Highway System. The Appalachian Highway System consists of 2402 miles of completed highway, 116.5 miles of highway under construction, and 506 miles of highway that include those of the Northern Beltline that are in the planning or final design stages.

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